

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The office action of January 16, 2003 has been carefully reviewed and these remarks are responsive thereto. Reconsideration and allowance of the instant application are respectfully requested. Claims 1, 7, 14-15, 19, 22-23, 57, and 60 have been amended. Claims 1, 4, 6-23, 57 and 60 remain pending. New claims 61-62 have been added.

Claims 1, 4, and 6-14 stand objected to for informalities. Applicants thank the Examiner for identifying the minor editorial problem. Applicants have amended claim 1 to overcome the informality. Further, claims 7, 14, 19, and 22 have been amended to correct minor editorial problems.

In the specification, the paragraphs beginning at page 3, line 6, page 4, line 19, page 6, line 9, page 7, line 20, page 9, line 7, page 10, line 4, page 11, line 20, page 12, line 13, page 14, line 6, page 15, line 14, page 15, line 20, page 16, line 9, page 19, line 19, and page 22, line 4, have been amended to correct minor editorial errors. These amendments to the specification clearly do not add new matter.

Claims 61-62 have been added. Support for the added claims can be found throughout the specification and drawings.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1, 4, 6-23, 57 and 60 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,946,113 to Pritchett ("Pritchett") and "A Standard Default Color Space for the Internet - sRGB" by Stokes et al. ("Stokes"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

As amended, independent claims 1, 15, 23, and 57 each recite, among other features, "wherein the gamut expanded sRGB color data values are linear with respect to luminance." Applicants' invention is patentably distinguishable over the applied references because the Pritchett and Stokes, either alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest this feature of Applicants' claims 1, 15, 23, and 57.

Pritchett describes color space conversion utilizing a perceptual-based color space. Every example of Pritchett assumes a perceptually linear color space, i.e., a space with a gamma correction of 2.2 included. Pritchett includes bias removal and matrix conversion operations, which are both linear and are thus unable to support gamma conversions because a gamma conversion assumes a non-linear conversion. (See Pritchett, col. 6, line 42- col. 7, line 24). In Stokes, the sRGB, or standardized RGB, color space, by definition, is a perceptual-based color space. "The three major factors of this RGB [sRGB] space are the colorimetric RGB definition, the equivalent gamma value of 2.2 and the well-defined viewing conditions, along with a number of secondary details necessary to enable the clear and unambiguous communication of color." (Stokes – page 2). Perceptual-based color spaces are based in the human visual system, i.e., how people "perceive" colors. Color spaces that are "linear with respect to brightness" are color spaces that utilize perceptual-based values.

In contrast to either Pritchett or Stokes, the present invention describes a conversion utilizing a physical-based color space, i.e., a space with a gamma correction of 1.0. Physical-based color spaces are based on the physics of mixing light and photons. Color spaces that are "linear with respect to luminance" are color spaces that utilize physical-based values. Page 7, line 16 to page 8, 3 and page 8, lines 18-21 of Applicants' written description describe some of the differences between physical- and perceptual-based color spaces.

Pritchett and Stokes, either alone or in combination, fail to teach, suggest, describe, or illustrate conversion that utilizes a physical-based color space. Therefore, because Pritchett and Stokes fail to teach or suggest, "wherein the gamut expanded sRGB color data values are linear with respect to luminance," as described, among other features, in Applicants' claims 1, 15, 23, and 57, withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants' claims 1, 4, 6-14, and 16-22, which depend from claims 1 and 15, are patentably distinguishable over the combination of Pritchett and Stokes for at least the same reasons as their ultimate base claim and further in view of the novel features recited therein.

As amended, independent claim 60 recites, among other features, "wherein said perceptually visible super transparent data values and perceptually visible super opaque data values are linear with respect to luminance." Applicants' amended claim 60 is patentably distinct

over the combination of Pritchett and Stokes for substantially similar reasons as those presented above with reference to Applicants' claims 1, 15, 23, and 57. Thus, the combination of Pritchett and Stokes fails to teach or suggest, "wherein said perceptually visible super transparent data values and perceptually visible super opaque data values are linear with respect to luminance," as recited, among other features, in Applicants' amended claim 60.

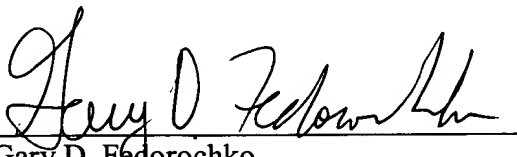
New claims 61 and 62 are fully supported by the specification and are believed allowable over the art of record. For example, teachings of the XsRGB color data values being linear with respect to luminance as recited, among other features, in new claims 61 and 62 cannot be found in the combination of Pritchett and Stokes.

CONCLUSION

All rejections having been addressed, Applicants respectfully submit that the instant application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully solicit prompt notification of the same. Should the Examiner find that a telephonic or personal interview would expedite passage to issue of the present application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number indicated below. No fee is believed due, however, if any fees are required or if an overpayment has been made the Commissioner is authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. 19-0733. Applicants look forward to passage to issue of the present application at the earliest convenience of the Office.

Respectfully submitted,
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